

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The missing abstract has been inserted starting on a separate sheet after the claims.

The sentence regarding the TEM measurement previously inserted by Applicants' amendment has been deleted.

Claim 4 has been amended to make the end of line 1 legible.

35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph

Claims 3, 4, 7, 8 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. (Underlining added for emphasis.)

The above rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) is a well known microscopy technique at least twenty five years before the subject patent application was filed. TEM is mentioned in at least 2500 U.S. patents granted before the filing date of the subject patent application. A partial listing of the U.S. patents granted from February 17, 1976 up to May 15, 2001 is attached. Thus, Applicants submit that Claims 3, 4, 7, 8 and 14 do not contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention and, therefore, are in compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 93/04117 or Christianni et al (US 5,747,560) in view of Suss et al. (US 4,558,075). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

As stated in the International Preliminary Examination Report, neither WO 93/04117, nor Suss et al., (US 4,558,075) discloses the preparation of nanocomposites from an anionic polymer edge-coated quaternary intercalated multilayered silicate material.

Christianni et al (US 5,747,560) do not teach or suggest a quaternary ammonium intercalated multi-layered silicate material having been reacted with a polyvalent anionic organic material so that the edges of the multi-layered silicate material are bound to the polyvalent anionic organic material to form a polyvalent anionic organic edge coated quaternary ammonium intercalated multi-layered silicate material, as required in Claims 1-15.

The Office Action did not say anything about Claims 16-19.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants submit that Claims 1-15 are patentable over WO 93/04117 or Christianni et al (US 5,747,560) in view of Suss et al. (US 4,558,075), and Claims 16-19 are patentable over Kawasumi et al. (US 4,810,734) or Polansky et al (US 6,287,992) in view of Suss et al. (US 4,558,075), or further in view of Brown et al. (US 4,964,918).

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the claims are now in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance of Claims 1 to 19 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

4. The process of Claim 1 or Claim 3, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is a blend of thermoplastic polymers.

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PAT. NO. Title

751 6,232,156 **T** Method of manufacturing a semiconductor device752 6,232,138 **T** Relaxed In_xGa(1-x) as buffers753 6,232,057 **T** Iodide ion releasing compound, and silver halide light-sensitive photographic material containing the same754 6,232,055 **T** Silver halid color photographic photosensitive material755 6,231,980 **T** BX CY NZ nanotubes and nanoparticles756 6,231,668 **T** Method for manufacturing a calibrated scale in the nanometer range for technical devices used for the high resolution or ultrahigh-resolution imaging of structures and such scale757 6,231,636 **T** Mechanochemical processing for metals and metal alloys758 6,229,153 **T** High peak current density resonant tunneling diode759 6,228,922 **T** Method of making conductive metal-containing polymer fibers and sheets760 6,228,638 **T** Escherichia coli CSRB gene and RNA encoded thereby761 6,228,565 **T** Silver halide color photographic photosensitive material762 6,228,535 **T** Nickel hydroxide positive electrode material exhibiting improved conductivity and engineered activation energy763 6,228,515 **T** Underlayer for use in a high density magnetic recording media

764 6,228,248 **T** Biomimetic pathways for assembling inorganic thin films and oriented mesoscopic silicate patterns through guided growth

765 6,228,117 **T** Device for tissue engineering bone

766 6,225,412 **T** Plastic toughened plastics

767 6,225,192 **T** Method of producing a thin layer of semiconductor material

768 6,225,041 **T** Silver halide photographic emulsion and silver halide photographic light sensitive material

769 6,224,881 **T** DNA molecule fragments encoding for cellular uptake of Mycobacterium tuberculosis and uses thereof

770 6,224,739 **T** Process for preparing solvent-stabilized metal colloids and substrate-immobilized metal clusters

771 6,223,961 **T** Apparatus for cleaving crystals

772 6,221,471 **T** Rubber modified monovinylidene aromatic polymer blends

773 6,221,440 **T** Process for plating metal coating

774 6,221,330 **T** Process for producing single wall nanotubes using unsupported metal catalysts

775 6,221,275 **T** Enhanced heat transfer using nanofluids

776 6,221,154 **T** Method for growing beta-silicon carbide nanorods, and preparation of patterned field-emitters by chemical vapor depositon (CVD)

777 6,218,663 **T** Process and device for ion thinning in a high resolution transmission electron microscope

778 6,218,594 **T** Guinea pig model for leiomyomas

779 6,218,360 **T** Collagen based biomaterials and methods of preparation and use

780 6,218,356 **T** Neural receptor tyrosine kinase

781 6,218,324 **T** Ceramic composites containing weak interfaces with ABO₄ tungstate, molybdate, tantalate, and niobate phases

782 6,218,141 **T** High molecular weight surface proteins of non-typeable haemophilus

783 6,218,095 **T** Silver halide color photographic photosensitive material

784 6,217,843 **T** Method for preparation of metal intercalated fullerene-like metal chalcogenides

785 6,217,416 **T** Chemical mechanical polishing slurry useful for copper/tantalum substrates

786 6,215,248 **T** Germanium emitter electrodes for gas ionizers

787 6,215,061 **T** Photoconductive thin film, and photovoltaic device making use of the same

788 6,214,936 **T** Use of microphase-separated polymer blends for the preparation of permeable membranes

789 6,214,543 **T** DNA molecule encoding for cellular uptake of Mycobacterium tuberculosis and uses thereof

790 6,214,422 **T** Method of forming a hybrid polymer film

791 6,214,331 **T** Process for the preparation of aqueous dispersions of particles of water-soluble polymers and the particles obtained

792 6,214,309 **T** Sinterable carbides from oxides using high energy milling

793 6,214,178 **T** Focused ion beam formation of angled optoelectronic devices

794 6,211,536 **T** Semiconductor device having improved crystal orientation

795 6,211,431 **T** Plant transcription regulators from circovirus

796 6,211,416 **T** Method for producing enol ethers

797 6,211,298 **T** Rubber modified monovinylidene aromatic polymer compositions

798 6,211,287 **T** Particle formation process and marking materials thereof

799 6,210,952 **T** Bacillus thuringiensis mutants which produce higher yields of crystal delta-endotoxin than their corresponding parental strains

800 6,210,889 **T** Method for enrichment of fetal cells from maternal blood and use of same in determination of fetal sex and detection of chromosomal abnormalities

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NO.

Title

3351 4,151,686 **T** Silicon carbide and silicon bonded polycrystalline diamond body and method of making it

3352 4,149,915 **T** Process for producing defect-free semiconductor devices having overlapping high conductivity impurity regions

3353 4,149,074 **T** Detector for a scanning transmission-type electron microscope

3354 4,138,383 **T** Preparation of small bio-compatible microspheres

3355 4,129,462 **T** Gamma prime hardened nickel-iron based superalloy

3356 4,128,765 **T** Ion beam machining techniques and apparatus

3357 4,127,558 **T** Compositions of a polyphenylene ether resin and alkenyl aromatic resins modified with EPDM rubber containing propylene

3358 4,127,416 **T** Method of producing a ceramic product

3359 4,125,406 **T** Alumina-chromia-metal (IV) oxide refractory fibers having a microcrystalline phase

3360 4,124,401 **T** Polycrystalline diamond body

3361 4,123,396 **T** Impregnated metal-polymeric functional beads

3362 4,119,840 **T** Fast acting gain photocurrent device

3363 4,118,222 **T** Glassy hafnium-beryllium alloys

3364 4,116,994 **T** Hydrocarbon synthesis from CO and H₂ using Rh supported on titanium oxides

3365 4,115,228 **T** Method of making secondary-electron emitters

3366 4,110,084 **T** Composite of bonded cubic boron nitride crystals on a silicon carbide substrate

3367 4,106,939 **T** Imaging and recording of information utilizing a tellurium tetrahalide complex of an aromatic amine

3368 4,105,598 **T** Cell specific, variable density, polymer microspheres

3369 4,102,850 **T** High impact polyphenylene ether resin compositions containing mineral oil

3370 4,101,505 **T** Compositions of a polyphenylene ether resin and EPDM rubber-modified alkenyl aromatic resins having specified gel content

3371 4,101,504 **T** High impact compositions of a polyphenylene ether resin and alkenyl aromatic resins modified with EPDM rubber

3372 4,101,503 **T** Compositions of a polyphenylene ether resin and high molecular weight alkenyl aromatic resins modified with EPDM rubber

3373 4,101,460 **T** High performance ion exchange composition

3374 4,097,935 **T** Hydroxylapatite ceramic

3375 4,094,706 **T** Preparation of zirconium alloys

3376 4,086,001 **T** Planar optical waveguide

3377 4,069,068 **T** Semiconductor fabrication method for improved device yield by minimizing pipes between common conductivity type regions

3378 4,067,756 **T** High strength, high ductility low carbon steel

3379 4,067,734 **T** Titanium alloys

3380 4,053,335 **T** Method of gettering using backside polycrystalline silicon

3381 4,049,478 **T** Utilization of an arsenic diffused emitter in the fabrication of a high performance semiconductor device

3382 4,046,720 **T** Crosslinked, porous, polyacrylate beads

3383 4,042,615 **T** Hydrocarbon synthesis from CO and H_{sub.2} using Ni supported on a titanium oxide

3384 4,042,614 **T** Hydrocarbon synthesis from CO and H_{sub.2} using Ru supported on a titanium oxide

3385 4,038,543 **T** Scanning transmission electron microscope including an improved image detector

3386 4,038,216 **T** Material and method of making secondary-electron emitters

3387 4,035,316 **T** Cell specific, variable density, polymer microspheres

3388 4,029,718 **T** Pivalolactone random graft copolymers

3389 4,028,149 **T** Process for forming monocrystalline silicon carbide on silicon substrates

3390 4,018,626 **T** Impact sound stressing for semiconductor devices

3391 4,004,449 **T** Impact sound stressing for semiconductors

3392 3,997,368 **T** Elimination of stacking faults in silicon devices: a gettering process

3393 3,985,632 **T** Small, porous polyacrylate beads

3394 3,977,993 **T** Metal oxide aerogels

3395 3,962,716 **T** Reduction of dislocations in multilayer structures of zinc-blend materials

3396 3,958,207 **T** Injection current device and method

3397 3,957,741 **T** Crosslinked, porous, polyacrylate beads

3398 3,944,332 **T** Optical sensitization and development of liquid crystalline devices

3399 3,939,346 **T** Gain photo-current enhancement method